currents

what's happening at the bridge

497 Olde Waterford Way, Ste 205
Leland, NC 28451 910-769-4951
thebridgepres@gmail.com
Thebridgepres.org

Our *mission* at the bridge Presbyterian Church is to help people
Connect with God's people in your life
Connect with God's purpose in your life
Connect with God's passion for your life

Sun. May 3 – 10:00 am - Sunday Services via FB live and Zoom
Sun. May 10 – 10:00 am - Sunday Services via FB live and Zoom
Sun. May 17 – 10:00 am - Sunday Services via FB live and Zoom
Sun. May 24 – 10:00 am - Sunday Services via FB live and Zoom

Facebook Live and Zoom Weekly

THIS WEEK --- FB LIVE and ZOOM - THURSDAY, May 7th at 12:30 pm

Sunday 10:00 am—Worship -FB Live and Zoom (zoom at 9:30)

From our Worship Elder - Cathy Boettcher

Zoom vs Facebook Live

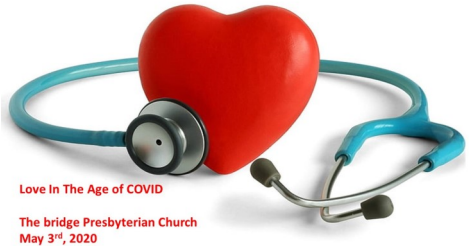
Please be aware that the two media we are using at this time to broadcast our Sunday Service have their own strengths and weaknesses. If you want to connect with others from the bridge, Zoom is your way to go. If you want a higher quality sound and video quality, Facebook Live is the media you should use. Please also know that we know that neither media is doing a perfect job and we are working to improve the means to present these Sunday services. Please be patient , but feel free to give us your feedback as we travel the technology highway.

The bridge Core Habits

What does a disciple of Jesus Christ look like at ***the bridge****? Our core habits answer that question. Our core habits are:*

Pray daily - Worship together weekly - Welcome & Include everyone - Belong to a small group - Give generously - Cherish children -
Forgive & reconcile continually - Serve our community

Worship Weekly



Date: May 3, 2020
Title: Love In the Age of Covid 19
Text: John 15: 12 – 17; I John 4: 16 – 21; Ephesians 5: 1 - 2
Questions:

- Is there a struggle between pandemic and passion? Stated differently: What emotions might this pandemic be flattening? Is all this physical distancing sucking some of the passion out of life; reducing us to our more primal emotions like fear, aggression and grief?
- Agree or disagree (and why): "Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, an infection of divine love exploded with the full force of a pandemic, infecting followers with this love who (in turn) spread it to the ends of the earth."

Read John 12: 12 – 17:

Discuss two ways that Jesus embodied love other than on the cross.
Jesus commands us to love one another as he loved us. What are concrete ways we can obey this command in the era of COVID 19?
When did you get infected with the virus of divine love?
Who transmitted it to you? Who are you actively trying to infect right now?

Read I John 4: 16 – 21:

What does it mean to abide in love and abide in God?
What's the relationship between fear and love? What implications does that have for us in era of COVID 19?
What does this passage tell you about God?

Read Ephesians 5: 1 – 2:

We are called to imitate God's love. How do you typically do that? What's changed over the past few months?
What do you think it means to 'live in love?'

Dr. Doug listed ways that Christians (historically and at the bridge) are demonstrating the love of God in Jesus Christ to the world. Prayerfully discuss how you or your group can demonstrate such love right now? How can the bridge become a 'community of mercy' during the ear of COVID?

bridge "Notes" from Patty

Hi friends. We've almost made it through the month of April 2020. I've seen God at work in so many ways during April. Birds hatching, flowers blooming, grass growing green, less traffic out in front of my house, generosity being shown each and every day by friends and neighbors and even strangers. I'm blessed to survive April 2020 and I look forward to what God has in store for the month of May. None of us know what tomorrow holds but we know who holds tomorrow. Enjoy and take time to smell the roses.

https://youtu.be/4GKNbmYOAow

Pray Daily

Prayers for:

- Charlie Smith, recovering from surgery to implant a pacemaker on 4/28/20.
- Peter Barrett, for a favorable biopsy outcome in the upcoming week.
- Mendel Hawkins, Sharon Cushing's father, undergoing a surgical procedure next week.
- Mike Weldon, having heart sonogram on 4/29/20; prayers for a good outcome and successful pain management while continuing to recover from recent hospitalization.
- Bob Dixon, out-patient cardiac procedure on 4/23/20.
- Vesta, treatment for a rare form of cancer (Cathy Boettcher).
- Tom, brother-in-law with colon cancer (Nancy Celli).

Sympathy

- Peter, housemate of Charlie Riddle, in the death of his father, Gilbert Morriale.
- Tim Spencer and his long-time girlfriend Lori, in the death her father to COVID-19 (Bill and Pat Spencer).

Note: Names in parentheses indicate those who made the prayer request.

Occupy the bridge

There is still time to be apart of Occupy the bridge. Monday, May 4th from 9AM-10AM you can drop off your "mementos" in front of the bridge. Put them in a bag with your name and instructions as to where in the church you want them placed. We know about where most of you sit and will do our best to get you seated!! Don't forget your name so we can get them back to you once this is over.

Remember your memento can be anything that represents YOU. A picture, a tie, a hat anything you can think of. Be creative. Have some fun. Then on Sundays we will pan the sanctuary to show how we have "occupied the bridge".

Give Generously

This weeks offering is $ 3,650.00

A you continue to give generously during this time, you can mail you pledges to **497 Olde Waterford Way, Suite 205, Leland, NC 28451** or set up direct payment where your bank will mail a check. It is very easy to set up and if you have any questions or need help, one of the generosity team members will be glad to talk to you. Just let Wanda know.

Cherish Children

During this time, it is important to stay connected to each other and to God. Because we are unable to connect in person, the Children and Families Ministry team will do our best to keep up our "normal" Sunday morning routine of having a "lesson" with activities and crafts that go along with Dr. Doug's sermons. Families, please check your email for activities, lesson ideas, and other resources from Elizabeth Murray. Please email Elizabeth at efmurray1975@gmail.com if you are not getting the resources and would like to.

Serve Our Community

UPRECO - the Sheppard and Lapsley Presbyterian University of the Congo

Our featured Sustainable Mission Partner for May is UPRECO, the Sheppard and Lapsley Presbyterian University of the Congo. Their mission is to educate leaders for the Congolese Church and nation as pastors, educators, lawyers, computer technicians, and agronomists, in a Christian environment. Just $300 provides one year of college. Our goal is to support women students and faculty with financial resources to nurture the well-being and rights of women in the Congo. If you feel called to make a donation to this global mission, please make your check out to the bridge Presbyterian Church, with UPRECO on the memo line, and send to497 Olde Waterford Way, Ste. 205, Leland , NC 28451.

Many thanks for everyone who participated in our collection for Nursing Homes and Assisted Livings. Because of the coronavirus, many facilities are not allowing the residents to leave their rooms. To brighten their days , we collected over 800 single serving candies and snacks, and 154 cans of soda. Thank you for your generosity and caring spirits!

Many thanks to our Church Family for your great generosity in supporting our Mission Partner, Hope Harbor Home. You provided food, shampoo and conditioner, and cleaning supplies for 13 families who are currently being sheltered and counseled. Thank you to Barbara Harwell for handling the collection and delivering the items.
Your Mission Team

Resetting Office Hours for The bridge Staff

On Friday, March 13th, the Session decided to close the bridge offices indefinitely. Since that momentous day, our dedicated and talented church staff have been working tirelessly to help guide the bridge through these uncertain times. I (Doug) have first-hand knowledge of how many hours Wanda and Patty have put in these past 7 weeks. Let us give thanks to God for their faithfulness to God's mission at the bridge.

As we move from crisis-management mode, the staff is adapting to a new rhythm and new way of doing ministry. There 'new-normal' office hours are as follows:

Patty Lyerly
Sunday: 8:00-11:00
Mon-Thurs: 9:00-1:00

Wanda Batten:
Sunday: 9:15 - 11:15am
Mon-Thurs: 9:00 - 2:00pm
Friday: 9:00 - 12:00pm

Both Wanda and Patty will have flexibility in their weekly rhythm to be part of meetings and zoom gatherings as needed. I know you will join me in helping Wanda and Patty re-discover the healthy balance between work and free time and the importance of taking two days off every week.

Speaking of off days, I (Doug) will be making every attempt at taking Friday and Saturday as my off days. The best times to get a hold of me are between 8:00 am and 6:30 pm Sunday through Thursday – although I tend to get a tied up around 10 am on Sunday.

Patty and Wanda join me in saying thank you for your prayerful support of us these past seven weeks. The cards, emails, phone calls and prayers have sustained us while we have been operating in crisis-mode. It is our privilege and joy serving the Lord and the bridge. As always, I remain,

Faithfully Your Pastor,

Doug

Misc. Announcements

Celebrating Birthdays at the bridge - May

Karen	Santone	8
Dana	Erbe	11
Clyde	Queen	11
Lydia	Stevens	17
Greer	Broadwater	19
Kerrin	Polaski	20
Don	Ullum	21
Page	Humphreys	24
Marilyn	Vernon	24
Ethel	Adams	27
Patricia	Shaffar	29